

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 29-35 have been canceled and claim 19 has been amended herein. Please note that all claims currently pending and under consideration in the referenced application are shown below. Please enter these claims as amended. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of replicating data in a networked communication system, comprising:
utilizing a wireless communication system that does not require reliable networking connections and which includes a first communication node and a second communication node;
using a first monitor at the first communication node and a second monitor at the second communication node to determine when the first and second communication nodes are within a communication range of each other, wherein at least one of the first and second communication nodes is mobile;
creating a dynamic connection between the first and second communication nodes while they are within the communication range;
employing an opportunistic data transfer between the first and second communication nodes across the dynamic connection while the dynamic connection is activated, wherein the opportunistic data transfer comprises:
retaining for future communication, first data elements at the first communication node and second data elements at the second communication node when the dynamic connection is inactive;
replicating the first data elements and the second data elements at each of the first and second communication nodes by propagating a redundant copy of the first data elements and the second data elements when the dynamic connection is active;
and
after the replicating, retaining the first data elements and the second data elements at each of the first and second communication nodes until the first and second data elements are received by at least one archival system and a command is received

from the at least one archival system to delete or modify the replicated data elements from the network; and
automatically generating, by the at least one archival system, the command to delete the replicated data elements from the network using the opportunistic data transfer when the replicated data elements are received by the at least one archival system while retaining the replicated data elements on the at least one archival system.

2. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein replicating includes comparing data stored locally at the first communication node with data stored locally at the second communication node.

3. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein if the data stored at the first communication node includes first information that is not stored at the second communication node, the act of replicating includes storing a copy of the first information at the second communication node.

4. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 3, wherein the first information includes an instruction to delete information.

5. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 4, wherein the first information includes an instruction to modify information.

6. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the first communication node includes a first opportunistic data transfer protocol component and the second communication node includes a second opportunistic data transfer protocol component.

7. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 6, wherein the first and second opportunistic data transfer protocol components perform the acts of using the first and second monitors for creating the dynamic connection.

8. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 1, further including:

using the first and second monitors and a third monitor at a third communication node to determine when the first, second and third communication nodes are within the communication range, wherein the third communication node includes a third opportunistic data transfer protocol component, and wherein at least one of the first, second, and third communication nodes is mobile; and including the third communication node in the dynamic connection.

9. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 8, further comprising third data elements at the third communication node, and wherein the act of replicating the first data elements and the second data elements includes replicating the first data elements, the second data elements, and the third data elements among the first second and third communication nodes.

10. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 9, wherein when at least one of the first, second and third communication nodes is no longer within communication range, excluding the at least one communication node from the dynamic connection.

11. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 10, wherein when the at least one communication node is again within communication range, including the at least one communication node in the dynamic connection and continuing to replicate data with the at least one communication node across the dynamic connection.

12. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 8, wherein when the dynamic connection is disconnected and the first communication node is within communication range of a fourth communication node that includes a fourth opportunistic data transfer component and a fourth monitor, performing the acts of:
creating a second dynamic connection between the first and fourth communication nodes while the first and fourth communication nodes are within communication range; and replicating data across the second dynamic connection.

13. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the fourth

communication node comprises the at least one archival system and includes a storage device.

14. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 13, wherein if the data stored at the first communication node includes information that is not preserved at the fourth communication node, the act of replicating includes storing an archival copy of the non-preserved information at the fourth communication node, and wherein when the non-preserved information is stored at the fourth communication node, initiating instructions from the fourth communication node to the first communication node to delete the non-preserved information.

15. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 14, wherein the fourth communication node is mobile.

16. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 15, wherein when the first and fourth communication nodes are no longer within communication range, disconnecting the second dynamic connection.

17. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 16, wherein when the first communication node is within communication range with a fifth communication node that includes a fifth monitor and a fifth opportunistic data transfer protocol component, performing the acts of:
creating a third dynamic connection between the first and fifth communication nodes while in communication range; and
replicating data across the third dynamic connection, including deleting any non-preserved information at the fifth communication node.

18. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 17, wherein the second and fifth communication nodes are the same communication node.

19. (Currently Amended) A dynamically mobile data communication system for use in moving data and facilitating the arrival of ~~data at~~ data at least one archival location, the

system comprising:

a plurality of communication nodes capable of employing wireless communication, wherein at least one communication node of the plurality is mobile and wherein at least one of the plurality of communication nodes is an at least one archival system; and

a storage device located at each communication node of the plurality; and

an opportunistic data transfer protocol component located at each communication node of the plurality, wherein when two or more of the communication nodes of the plurality are within a communication range, the opportunistic data transfer protocol component at each of the two or more of the communication nodes is configured to create a dynamic connection for communication among the two or more communication nodes so long as the two or more communication nodes are within the communication range;

wherein:

when the dynamic connection is inactive, each of the two or more of the communication nodes retain data elements for future communication;

when the dynamic connection is active, all data elements at any of the two or more of the communication nodes are replicated across the dynamic connection to all of the two or more of the communication nodes to become replicated data elements; and

the at least one archival system retains the replicated data elements and generates a command to delete the replicated data elements from all other communication nodes using the opportunistic data transfer protocol when the replicated data elements are received by the at least one archival system.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) A dynamically mobile data communication system as recited in claim 19, wherein at least one of the plurality of communication nodes is configured to gather data.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously Presented) A dynamically mobile data communication system as

recited in claim 19, wherein the system is configured to transmit the data elements in segments.

24. (Previously Presented) A dynamically mobile data communication system as recited in claim 19, wherein the at least one archival system is configured to propagate an instruction to delete to one or more communication nodes of the plurality to delete data from each of the one or more communication nodes.

25. (Previously Presented) A dynamically mobile data communication system as recited in claim 24, wherein the instruction to delete is propagated upon creating a subsequent dynamic connection between two or more communication nodes of the plurality, wherein at least one of the two or more communication nodes includes the instruction to delete and is configured to issue the instruction to delete to each of the two or more communication nodes of the subsequent dynamic connection.

26. (Previously Presented) A dynamically mobile data communication system as recited in claim 25, wherein when high priority data is gathered, the system is further configured for transmitting the high priority data to a desired location through the use of a secure link.

27. (Original) A dynamically mobile data communication system as recited in claim 26, wherein the secure link includes one of a cellular link and a satellite link.

28. (Original) A dynamically mobile data communication system as recited in claim 27, wherein the high priority data is transferred in real-time.

Claims 29-35. (Canceled)

Claims 36-41. (Canceled)

42. (Previously Presented) A method of archiving data in a networked communication system, comprising:
utilizing a wireless communication system that does not require reliable networking connections

and which includes communication nodes comprising at least one initiating node, at least one intermediate node, and an archival node wherein at least one of the communication nodes is mobile;

activating a dynamic connection between a pair of the communication nodes while they are within a communication range;

employing an opportunistic data transfer between a pair of the communication nodes comprising:

replicating data elements generated by the at least one initiating node between the pair of the communication nodes by propagating a redundant copy of the data elements at each of the pair of the communication nodes when the dynamic connection is active; and

retaining for future communication the data elements at each of the pair of the communication nodes;

continuing the activating and the employing between any pair of the communication nodes until one of the pair of the communication nodes is the archival node;

generating, at the archival node, a delete command for the data elements when the data elements have been successfully received at the archival node;

propagating the delete command to the communication nodes using the activating and the employing;

deleting the data elements at the at least one intermediate node when the delete command is successfully received thereby; and

deleting the data elements at the at least one initiating node when the delete command is successfully received thereby.

43. (Previously Presented) the method of claim 42, wherein the at least one intermediate node includes a plurality of intermediate nodes and the at least one initiating node includes a plurality of initiating nodes.

44. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 43, wherein at least one of the plurality of intermediate nodes also acts as at least one of the plurality of initiating nodes.

45. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 43, wherein at least one of the plurality of initiating nodes also acts as at least one of the plurality of intermediate nodes.

46. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 43, wherein the data elements generated by the at least one initiating node are transferred to at least two of the plurality of intermediate nodes before being transferred to the archival node.

47. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 42, further comprising communicating the data elements to a high priority node different from the archival node if the data elements are designated as high priority data elements, and wherein:
deleting the data elements at the at least one intermediate node only occurs after the high priority node receives the high priority data elements; and
deleting the data elements at the at least one initiating node only occurs after the high priority node receives the high priority data elements.